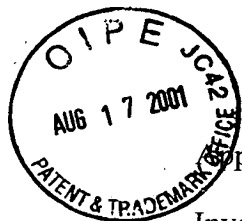


Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 AUG 2001

09/89116 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Application No.: 09/889,116

Inventors: Woltjes et al.

Filed: July 9, 2001

For: COMPOSITION BASED ON
CROSS-LINKED STARCH AND
DEPOLYMERIZED STARCH
SUITABLE AS GELATINE
REPLACEMENT

Group No.: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Docket No.: 294-104 PCT/US

Dated: August 15, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

*I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited
with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail,
postpaid in an envelope, addressed to:
Asst Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.
20231 on August 15, 2001.*

Signature: *[Signature]*

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In order to place the application in proper form for examination, applicants
hereby amend the application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the title of the invention, insert the following:

A1 --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

Page 3, after line 32, insert the following:

A2 --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Page 12, line 1, change "Detailed description" to the following:

A3 --DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--

09889116-122701